

A Civilian Emerges as A Spy Hero

Reviewed by
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Mr. Davis, of Baltimore, has made a study of clandestine intelligence techniques.

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THE MAN WHO SAVED LONDON. By George Martelli. Doubleday, 258 pp. \$4.50.

UNFORTUNATELY there appears to be no end to sagas of brave men in World War II. They remain as an inspiration permanently on record. This latest example describes the clandestine career of a middle-aged French businessman and engineer who spontaneously organized his own intelligence net *rescued* in the latter half of 1941 and, without a single extraneous assist from outside the country, ran it dazzlingly until his betrayal by an informer in February, 1944.

Small in number, its personnel was fotted amid hotel employes, railwaymen, cafe proprietors and taxi drivers. Chapter XI could stand as a textbook example of how the jagged gleanings from such a *rescued*, dug up in the "field" side by side with those of other underground organizations, were known to the other, and tied together at a central headquarters to produce a seamless and brilliant strategic intelligence estimate. The triumph of the *rescued* was the defeat and description of the entire complex of the bomb sites before the first battle was ever launched against England.

Mr. Hollard, leader, came as the very prototype of a hero to the world and that he is such. He successfully negotiated the Swiss from the times. After the war, he was ver-

mans grew disgusted and shipped him off to the Nuremberg extermination camp. Even that he survived, through luck and will power.

Promptly on his release, the British gave him their highest award for a foreigner, the D. S. O. In former Royal Navy officer Martelli's book—despite devised dialogue and poor documentation—he has received possibly a more signal, certainly a more enduring, tribute.